event of suppliers' failure to adhere to the time-schedule and quality equipment as per the terms of the contract with the West German firms for the purchase of Spreaders for the second mine expansion project of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The Letter of Intent issued to the supplier of spreaders for the Second Mine Expansion project of NLC provides for the levy of liquidated damages in the event of failure to adhere to the agreed time schedule. As regards quality, the structural designs would be examined by NLC's consultants with the help of an independent expert and modifications, if any, would be carried out free of cost by the supplier.

Bringing Public Sector Undertakings under MRTP Act

370. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring the public sector undertakings under the purview of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act (MRTP); and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) No final decision has been taken in this regard so far.

Filling up the Vacant Posts of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

371. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Judges lying vacant at present in the Supreme Court of India and the various State High Courts;

(b) the reasons for not filling-up a large number of these posts leading to the accumulation of a large number of cases in the Sureme Court and the High Courts;

(c) by when the posts are likely to be filled up; and

(d) whether Goverment propose to appoint some more women Judges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) In the Supreme Court, as on 1-4-87, there were 12 posts of Judges to be filled up (inclusive of the 8 new posts); appointment of two Judges has since approved. As on 1-4-87, there were 49 vacancies of Judges in the High Courts; High Court-wise details are given in the attached statement. (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The process of consultation with the constitutional functionaries required to be consulted in the matter of appointment of Judges does take some time. The Government have recently reiterated the instructions prescribing the time schedule wherein the Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers and Governors of States have to send their recommendations for filling in posts of Judges in High